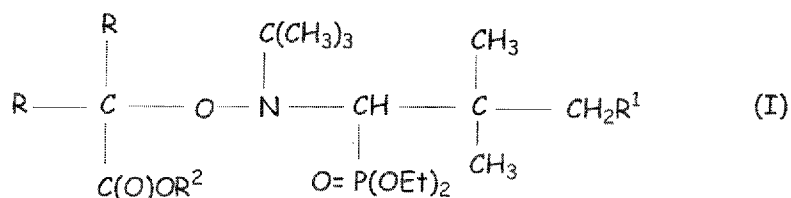


Amendments to the Claims:

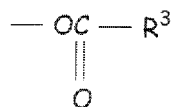
This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Claims

1. (currently amended) Alkoxyamines of formula:

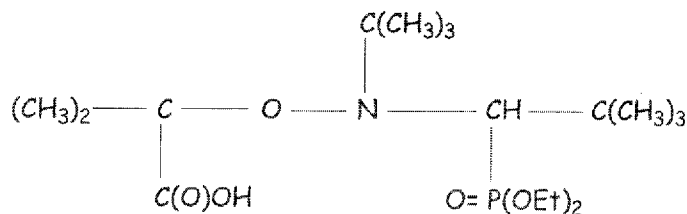


in which R represents a linear or branched alkyl radical having a number of carbon atoms ranging from 1 to 3, R¹ represents a hydrogen atom or a residue:

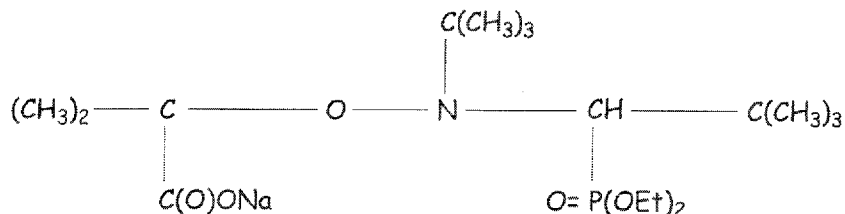


in which R³ represents a linear or branched alkyl radical having a number of carbon atoms ranging from 1 to 20, and R² represents a hydrogen atom, ~~a linear or branched alkyl radical having a number of carbon atoms ranging from 1 to 8, a phenyl radical, an alkali metal, such as Li, Na or K, H₄N⁺, Bu₄N⁺ or Bu₃HN⁺, with the exception of the alkoxyamines of formula (I) in the formula of which R¹ = H and R² represents a linear or branched alkyl radical having a number of carbon atoms ranging from 1 to 6.~~

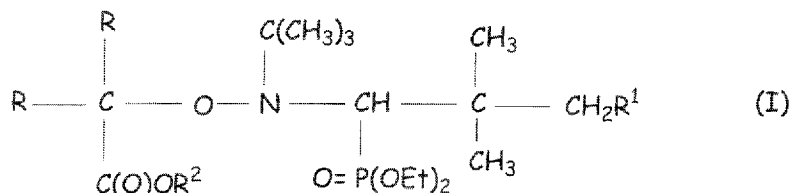
2. (currently amended) Alkoxyamines of Claim 1 of the formula: 2-Methyl-2-[N-(tert-butyl)-N-(diethoxyphosphoryl-2,2-dimethylpropyl)aminoxy]propionic acid:



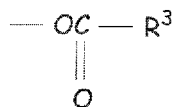
3. (currently amended) Alkoxyamines of Claim 1 of the formula: Sodium 2-methyl-2-[N-(tert-butyl)-N-(diethoxyphosphoryl-2,2-dimethylpropyl)aminoxy]propionate:



4. (currently amended) Use as initiators A method for (co)polymerizations of at least one monomer which can be polymerized by the radical route under bulk, solution, emulsion, suspension or miniemulsion conditions of the comprising reacting, with said at least one monomer, alkoxyamines of formula:



in which R represents a linear or branched alkyl radical having a number of carbon atoms ranging from 1 to 3, R¹ represents a hydrogen atom or a residue:

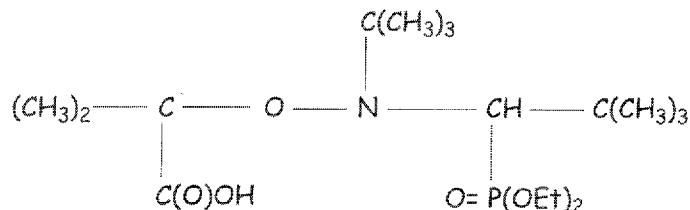


in which R³ represents a linear or branched alkyl radical having a number of carbon atoms ranging from 1 to 20, and R² represents a hydrogen atom, ~~a linear or branched alkyl radical having a number of carbon atoms ranging from 1 to 8,~~ a phenyl radical, an alkali metal, such as Li, Na or K, H₄N⁺, Bu₄N⁺ or Bu₃HN⁺, exhibiting a kinetic dissociation constant k_d, measured at 120°C by EPR, of greater than 0.05 s⁻¹ and preferably of greater than 0.1 s⁻¹.

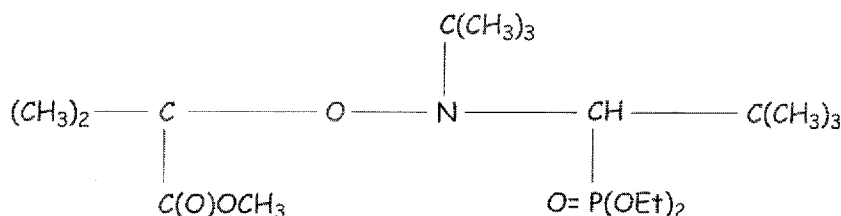
5. (currently amended) Use according to The method of Claim 4 of the wherein alkoxyamines of formula (I) in which R = CH₃-, R¹ = H and R² [[=]] is selected from the group consisting of H,

CH₃, (CH₃)₃C, Li and Na.

6. (currently amended) ~~Use according to either of Claims 4 and 5 of~~ The method of Claim 4, wherein said alkoxyamine is 2-methyl-2-[N-(tert-butyl)-N-(diethoxyphosphoryl-2,2-dimethylpropyl)aminoxy]propionic acid of the formula:



7. (currently amended) ~~Use according to either of Claims 4 and 5 of~~ The method of Claim 4, wherein said alkoxyamine is methyl 2-methyl-2-[N-(tert-butyl)-N-(diethoxyphosphoryl-2,2-dimethylpropyl)aminoxy]propionate of the formula:



8. (currently amended) ~~Use according to one of Claims 4 to 9~~ The method of claim 4, characterized in that the monomer or monomers which can be polymerized by the radical route are chosen from vinylaromatic monomers, such as styrene, α -methylstyrene or sodium styrenesulphonate, dienes, such as butadiene or isoprene, (meth)acrylic monomer, or (meth)acrylate monomers, such as acrylic acid or its salts, methyl acrylate, ethyl acrylate, butyl acrylate, ethylhexyl acrylate, phenyl acrylate, 2-hydroxyethyl acrylate, 2-methoxyethyl acrylate, methoxypolyethylene glycol acrylates, ethoxypolyethylene glycol acrylates, methoxypolypropylene glycol acrylates, methoxypolyethylene glycol-polypropylene glycol acrylates or their mixtures, 2-(dimethylamino)ethyl acrylate (ADAME), [2-(acryloyloxy)ethyl]-

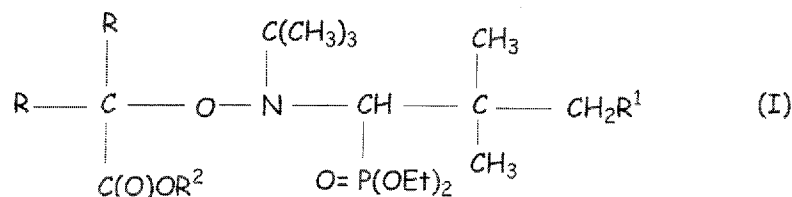
trimethylammonium chloride ~~or~~ , [2-(acryloyloxy)ethyl]trimethylammonium sulphate, [2-(acryloyloxy)ethyl]dimethylbenzylammonium chloride ~~or~~ , [2-(acryloyloxy)ethyl]dimethylbenzylammonium sulphate, methacrylic acid or its salts, methyl methacrylate, lauryl methacrylate, cyclohexyl methacrylate, allyl methacrylate, phenyl methacrylate, 2-hydroxyethyl methacrylate, 2-hydroxypropyl methacrylate, 2-ethoxyethyl methacrylate, methoxypolyethylene glycol methacrylates, ethoxypolyethylene glycol methacrylates, methoxypolypropylene glycol methacrylates, methoxypolyethylene glycol-polypropylene glycol methacrylates ~~or their mixtures~~, 2-(dimethylamino)ethyl methacrylate (MADAME), [2-(methacryloyloxy)ethyl]trimethylammonium chloride ~~or~~ , [2-(methacryloyloxy)ethyl]trimethylammonium sulphate, [2-(methacryloyloxy)ethyl]dimethylbenzylammonium chloride ~~or~~ , [2-(methacryloyloxy)ethyl]dimethylbenzylammonium sulphate, 2,2,2-trifluoroethyl methacrylate, 3-methacryloyloxypropyltrimethylsilane, ethylene glycol methacrylate phosphate, hydroxyethylimidazolidone methacrylate, hydroxyethylimidazolidinone methacrylate, 2-(2-oxo-1-imidazolidinyl)ethyl methacrylate, acrylonitrile, ~~optionally~~ substituted (meth)acrylamides, ~~such as acrylamide~~, 4-acryloylmorpholine, N-methylolacrylamide, acrylamidopropyltrimethylammonium chloride (APTAC), acrylamidomethylpropanesulphonic acid (AMPS) or its salts, methacrylamide, N-methylolmethacrylamide ~~or~~ , methacrylamidopropyltrimethylammonium chloride (MAPTAC), itaconic acid, maleic acid or its salts, maleic anhydride, vinylpyridine, vinylpyrrolidinone, (alkoxy)poly(alkylene glycol) vinyl ethers ~~or~~ , vinylpyrrolidinone, (alkoxy)poly(alkylene glycol) divinyl ethers, such as methoxypoly(ethylene glycol) vinyl ether or poly(ethylene glycol) divinyl ether, or a mixture of at least two ~~abovementioned~~ of said monomers.

9. (currently amended) Use The method according to Claim 8, characterized in that at least one of the monomers is butyl acrylate.

10. (currently amended) Use The method according to Claim 8 ~~or~~ 9, characterized in that at least one of the monomers is methyl methacrylate.

11. (currently amended) Use The method according to Claim 8, characterized in that the ~~mixture of monomers~~ comprise a mixture is composed of butyl acrylate and of methyl methacrylate.

12. (currently amended) (Co)polymers obtained by (co)polymerization of at least one monomer which can be polymerized by the radical route under bulk, solution, emulsion, suspension or miniemulsion conditions in the presence of an alkoxyamine of formula:



in which R represents a linear or branched alkyl radical having a number of carbon atoms ranging from 1 to 3, R¹ represents a hydrogen atom or a residue:



in which R³ represents a linear or branched alkyl radical having a number of carbon atoms ranging from 1 to 20, and R² represents a hydrogen atom, ~~a linear or branched alkyl radical having a number of carbon atoms ranging from 1 to 8, a phenyl radical, an alkali metal, such as Li, Na or K, H₄N⁺, Bu₄N⁺ or Bu₃HN⁺, exhibiting a kinetic dissociation constant k_d, measured at 120°C by EPR, of greater than 0.05 s⁻¹ and preferably of greater than 0.1 s⁻¹.~~

13. (currently amended) (Co)polymers according to Claim 12, characterized in that the monomer or monomers which can be polymerized by the radical route are chosen from vinylaromatic monomers, ~~such as styrene, α-methylstyrene or sodium styrenesulphonate~~, dienes, ~~such as butadiene or isoprene~~, (meth)acrylic monomers, ~~or (meth)acrylate monomers, such as acrylic acid or its salts~~, methyl acrylate, ethyl acrylate, butyl acrylate, ethylhexyl acrylate, phenyl acrylate, 2-hydroxyethyl acrylate, 2-methoxyethyl acrylate, methoxypolyethylene glycol acrylates, ethoxypolyethylene glycol acrylates, methoxypolypropylene glycol acrylates, methoxypolyethylene glycol-polypropylene glycol acrylates ~~or their mixtures~~, 2-(dimethylamino)ethyl acrylate (ADAME), [2-(acryloyloxy)ethyl]trimethylammonium chloride ~~or~~ , [2-(acryloyloxy)ethyl]trimethylammonium sulphate, [2-(acryloyloxy)ethyl]dimethylbenzylammonium chloride ~~or~~ , [2-(acryloyloxy)ethyl]dimethylbenzylammonium sulphate, methacrylic acid or its salts, methyl methacrylate, lauryl methacrylate, cyclohexyl methacrylate,

allyl methacrylate, phenyl methacrylate, 2-hydroxyethyl methacrylate, 2-hydroxypropyl methacrylate, 2-ethoxyethyl methacrylate, methoxypolyethylene glycol methacrylates, ethoxypolyethylene glycol methacrylates, methoxypolypropylene glycol methacrylates, methoxypolyethylene glycol-polypropylene glycol methacrylates ~~or their mixtures~~, 2-(dimethylamino)ethyl methacrylate (MADAME), [2-(methacryloyloxy)ethyl]trimethylammonium chloride ~~or~~ , [2-(methacryloyloxy)ethyl]trimethylammonium sulphate, [2-(methacryloyloxy)ethyl]dimethylbenzylammonium chloride ~~or~~ , [2-(methacryloyloxy)ethyl]dimethylbenzylammonium sulphate, 2,2,2-trifluoroethyl methacrylate, 3-methacryloyloxypropyltrimethylsilane, ethylene glycol methacrylate phosphate, hydroxyethylimidazolidone methacrylate, hydroxyethylimidazolidinone methacrylate, 2-(2-oxo-1-imidazolidinyl)ethyl methacrylate, acrylonitrile, ~~optionally~~-substituted (meth)acrylamides, ~~such as acrylamide~~, 4-acryoylmorpholine, N-methylolacrylamide, acrylamidopropyltrimethylammonium chloride (APTAC), acrylamidomethylpropanesulphonic acid (AMPS) or its salts, methacrylamide, N-methylolmethacrylamide ~~or~~ , methacrylamidopropyltrimethylammonium chloride (MAPTAC), itaconic acid, maleic acid or its salts, maleic anhydride, vinylpyridine, vinylpyrrolidinone or a mixture of at least two ~~abovementioned~~ of said monomers.

14. (original) Polymers according to Claim 13, characterized in that at least one of the monomers is butyl acrylate.

15. (currently amended) Polymers according to Claim 13 ~~or~~ 14, characterized in that at least one of the monomers is methyl acrylate.

16. (original) Copolymers according to Claim 13, characterized in that the ~~mixture of~~ monomers ~~is composed of~~ comprise a mixture of butyl acrylate and of methyl methacrylate.

17-20. (canceled)

21. (new) The alkoxyamines of Claim 1 wherein said an alkali metal is selected from the group consisting of Li, Na and K.

22. (new) The method of Claim 4 wherein said an alkali metal is selected from the group consisting of Li, Na and K.

23. (new) The (co)polymers of Claim 12 wherein said an alkali metal is selected from the group consisting of Li, Na and K.